

Exhibit D

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Page 1

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

- - - - -

IN RE: PROTON-PUMP MDL NO. 2789
INHIBITOR PRODUCTS
LIABILITY LITIGATION
(NO. II)

- - - - -

Civil Action No. 2:17-cv-06124
FREDDY BALES,
Plaintiff,
vs.
ASTRAZENECA PHARMACEUTICALS,
LP, et al.,
Defendants.

- - - - -

Civil Action No. 2:17-cv-02475
DAVID FOSTER,
Plaintiff,
vs.
ASTRAZENECA PHARMACEUTICALS,
LP, et al.,
Defendants.

- - - - -

Civil Action No. 2:17-cv-00212
KIMBERLY LEE,
Plaintiff,
vs.
ASTRAZENECA PHARMACEUTICALS,
LP, et al.,
Defendants.

- - - - -

Civil Action No. 2:17-cv-13727
DIANE NELSON,
Plaintiff,
vs.
ASTRAZENECA PHARMACEUTICALS,
LP, et al.,
Defendants.

- - - - -

CONFIDENTIAL - PURSUANT TO PROTECTIVE ORDER
WAJAHAT MEHAL, M.D., DPhil
July 14, 2021

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3 Civil Action No. 2:17-cv-06124

JAMES REIDER,

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Plaintiff,

vs.

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ASTRAZENECA PHARMACEUTICALS,

LP, et al.,

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Defendants.

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Wednesday, July 14, 2021

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Remote Video Zoom Deposition of WAJAHAT

14

MEHAL, M.D., DPhil, conducted at the location of the

15

witness in New Haven, Connecticut, commencing at

16

9:21 a.m., by and before Robin L. Clark, Registered

17

Professional Reporter and Notary Public.

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1 REMOTE APPEARANCES:
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18 and AstraZeneca LP
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Pharmaceuticals U.S.A., Inc., Takeda

8

Pharmaceuticals America, Inc., Takeda
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9

Takeda Pharmaceuticals Company Limited

ALSO PRESENT:

10

NANCY HOLMSTOCK, VIDEOGRAPHER

11

CARRIE HOWARD, EXHIBIT TECH

12

EMILY SY, ESQ., In-House Counsel Takeda

13

LEO RAKITIN, ESQ., In-House Counsel for
AstraZeneca

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6	NONE
7	Request for Production of Documents
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9	NONE
10	Question Marked
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1 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We
2 are now on the record. My name is
3 Nancy Holmstock, videographer for
4 Golkow Litigation Services.

5 Today's date is July 14, 2021. The
6 time is 9:21 a.m. Eastern time.

7 This remote video
8 deposition is being held in the
9 matter of in re: Proton Pump
10 Inhibitor Products Liability
11 Litigation, MDL number 2789, as it
12 relates to cases, Civil Action
13 number 2:17-cv-06124, Freddie Bales
14 versus AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals,
15 LP, et al. for the United States
16 District Court, the District of New
17 Jersey. The deponent is Wajahat
18 Mehal, MD, DPhil.

19 All parties to this
20 deposition are appearing remotely
21 and have agreed to the witness
22 being sworn in remotely. Due to
23 the nature of remote reporting,
24 please pause briefly before

1 MS. du PONT: The actual
2 slides of the rats that were
3 involved in the study.

4 THE WITNESS: Yeah, I
5 reviewed the data from the
6 pathologist who read the slides. I
7 did not look at the actual slides
8 myself.

9 BY MS. du PONT:

10 Q. You've never personally
11 identified chronic progressive neuropathy
12 [sic] on a rat kidney slide before, have
13 you?

14 A. That's not something that I've
15 studied and identified. We've identified
16 other types of injuries in mice and rat
17 kidneys.

18 Q. You've never compared rat
19 chronic progressive nephropathy to kidney
20 disease in humans, correct?

21 A. Could you repeat that, please?

22 Q. You've never compared rat
23 chronic progressive neuropathy --
24 nephropathy, sorry, nephropathy to kidney

1 diseases in humans, correct?

2 A. So chronic progressive
3 nephropathy in rats is a unique thing to
4 rats, so it wouldn't make sense to compare
5 it to humans, because they don't get that
6 particular disease. So no, you know,
7 there's no reason to do that.

8 Q. So you would agree that chronic
9 progressive nephropathy is a spontaneous
10 renal disease that only occurs in rats,
11 right?

12 MS. O'CONNOR: Object to
13 the form. You can answer.

14 THE WITNESS: So yes, I
15 mean there is the disease with that
16 name that is rat specific, yes.
17 And it does occur spontaneously in
18 some rats, in some rats.

19 BY MS. du PONT:

20 Q. And it doesn't occur in humans,
21 right?

22 A. Not that specific disease.

23 Q. And would you agree that CPN or
24 chronic -- I'm forgetting what it's called,

1 chronic progressive nephropathy has the
2 potential to confound interpretation of
3 kidney findings in experimental pathology
4 and toxicology studies?

5 MS. O'CONNOR: Objection
6 to the form.

7 THE WITNESS: So many
8 things can confound studies and
9 that's why, obviously, there are
10 control groups and such like which
11 will rigorously control for, you
12 know, multiple confounding factors.
13 But in a well-designed study,
14 meaning if there are controlled
15 groups, then it does not confound
16 the results.

17 BY MS. du PONT:

18 Q. There are major differences in
19 pathology though between CPN, which is what
20 we have been talking about, in human
21 nephropathies, correct?

22 A. I mean, there are similarities
23 and there are differences, I mean, human
24 nephropathies, that term encompasses dozens

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1 concluded at 5:45 p.m.)

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1 C E R T I F I C A T I O N

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3

4 I HEREBY CERTIFY that the proceedings and
5 evidence are contained fully and accurately in the
6 stenographic notes taken by me upon the foregoing
7 matter on July 14, 2021, and that this is a correct
8 transcript of same.

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Robin L. Clark

Registered Professional Reporter

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22 (The foregoing certification of this
23 transcript does not apply to any reproduction of the
24 same by any means unless under the direct control
and/or supervision of the certifying reporter.)

1 INSTRUCTIONS TO WITNESS

2

3 Please read your deposition over carefully
4 and make any necessary corrections.

5 You should state the reason in the appropriate
6 space on the errata sheet for any corrections
7 that are made.

8 After doing so, please sign the errata
9 sheet and date it.

10 You are signing same subject to the
11 changes you have noted on the errata sheet,
12 which will be attached to your deposition.

13 It is imperative that you return the
14 original errata sheet to the deposing attorney
15 within thirty (30) days of receipt of the deposition
16 transcript by you. If you fail to do so, the
17 deposition transcript may be deemed to be accurate
18 and may be used in court.

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1 ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF DEPONENT

2

3 I, DR. WAJAHAT MEHAL, do hereby
4 certify that I have read the foregoing pages
5 and that the same is a correct
6 transcription of the answers given by me to
7 the questions therein propounded, except for
8 the corrections or changes in form or
9 substance, if any, noted in the attached
10 Errata Sheet.

10

11 DATE

SIGNATURE

12

13 Subscribed and sworn to before me this

14

day of ,

15

2021.

16

17 My commission expires:

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19

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Notary Public

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